

Senate Study Bill 3192

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION BILL BY
CO=CHAIRPERSON McKINLEY)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to school schedules, including providing for the
2 establishment of regional school bell schedules for public
3 schools and eliminating the waiver for early school starts.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 6481XK 81
6 kh/gg/14

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1 1 Section 1. Section 256F.4, subsection 5, Code 2005, is
1 2 amended to read as follows:
1 3 5. A charter school shall provide instruction for at least
1 4 the number of days required by section 279.10, subsection 1,
1 5 or shall provide at least the equivalent number of total
1 6 hours. A charter school shall use one or both of the school
1 7 bell schedules established pursuant to section 279.63.
1 8 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 279.63 SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULES.
1 9 1. The boards of directors of each area education agency
1 10 shall, in consultation with the school districts located
1 11 within agency boundaries, determine the school bell schedules
1 12 for the following school year for secondary schools located
1 13 within the area education agency's boundaries. Each area
1 14 education agency shall determine both a traditional bell
1 15 schedule and a block bell schedule.
1 16 2. The area education agencies shall submit to the
1 17 department of education, not later than November 1 of the
1 18 preceding school year, the school bell schedules determined
1 19 for the following school year pursuant to subsection 1. The
1 20 department of education shall post the school bell schedules
1 21 for each area education agency on its internet website not
1 22 later than December 1 of the preceding school year.
1 23 3. The board of directors of each school district shall
1 24 use one or both of the school bell schedules determined
1 25 pursuant to subsection 1 for its attendance centers.
1 26 4. For purposes of this section, "bell schedule" means the
1 27 start and end of class times for schools.
1 28 Sec. 3. Section 257.17, Code 2005, is amended to read as
1 29 follows:
1 30 257.17 AID REDUCTION FOR EARLY SCHOOL STARTS.
1 31 State aid payments made pursuant to section 257.16 for a
1 32 fiscal year shall be reduced by one one-hundred=eightieth for
1 33 each day of that fiscal year for which the school district
1 34 begins school before the earliest starting date specified in
1 35 section 279.10, subsection 1. ~~However, this section does not~~
2 1 ~~apply to a school district that has received approval from the~~
2 2 ~~director of the department of education under section 279.10,~~
2 3 ~~subsection 4, to commence classes for regularly established~~
2 4 ~~elementary and secondary schools in advance of the starting~~
2 5 ~~date established in section 279.10, subsection 1.~~
2 6 Sec. 4. Section 279.10, subsection 2, Code 2005, is
2 7 amended to read as follows:
2 8 2. The board of directors shall hold a public hearing on
2 9 any ~~proposal request made pursuant to subsection 3~~ prior to
2 10 submitting it to the department of education for approval.
2 11 Sec. 5. Section 279.10, subsection 4, Code 2005, is
2 12 amended by striking the subsection.
2 13 EXPLANATION
2 14 This bill requires each area education agency, in
2 15 consultation with the school districts located within agency

2 16 boundaries, to determine annually a traditional and a block
2 17 school bell schedule for the following school year for the
2 18 attendance centers located within the area education agency's
2 19 boundaries, and requires all school districts and charter
2 20 schools to use one or both of the bell schedules established
2 21 by the area education agency.

2 22 The department of education is directed to post the area
2 23 education agency=determined bell schedules on its internet
2 24 website.

2 25 The bill also eliminates the authority of the director of
2 26 the department of education to grant a request made by a board
2 27 of directors of a school district to commence classes prior to
2 28 the earliest starting date allowed, which is no sooner than a
2 29 day during the calendar week in which the first day of
2 30 September falls or, if the first day of September falls on a
2 31 Sunday, a day during the prior week.

2 32 The bill makes a conforming change to eliminate an
2 33 exemption from aid reduction for early school starts that
2 34 school districts qualify for if they are granted a waiver from
2 35 the school start date. Without the waiver, the school
3 1 district's state aid payments are reduced by 1/180 for each
3 2 day of that fiscal year for which the school district begins
3 3 school before the earliest starting date allowed. The bill
3 4 includes a technical correction.

3 5 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
3 6 section 25B.3.

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